

Enforcement of NCERT Syllabus in the Country

† 3877. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 10+2 pattern is being followed in all the State of the country;

(b) whether at the time of enforcing the 10+2 pattern, Government had announced to uniformly enforce the syllabus of NCERT in all the States;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware that in several States, the syllabus of NCERT is not being enforced uniformly particularly in the public schools for all the classes;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the concrete steps taken so far by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir, 10+2 pattern is advised by NCERT and school education is a concurrent subject and State Governments/UTs are free to adopt the system relevant to their region.

(b) There is no enforcement as such since NCERT is only an advisory body in all such matters.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) Many public schools which are affiliated to CBSE follow NCERT syllabus.

Expenditure on Education

3878. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the expenditure on education by Government, as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product, during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

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RAJYA SABHA

(b) what has been the percentage of resource allocation during 2000-2001; and

(c) when would Government raise this allocation to the promised six per cent of GDP?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Public expenditure on education as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 has been 3.49%, 3.86% and 3.94% respectively.

(b) The percentage of budgetary allocation to education during 2000-2001 (revenue account) has been 4.56 for the Centre and 22.17 for the States/UTs.

(c) The National Policy on Education recommends gradual increase in investment on education to reach a level of 6% of national income as early as possible. However, it has not been possible so far to provide allocation upto this level due to competing priorities and overall resource constraints.

Review of Total Literacy Programme

3879. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a review has been undertaken to find out the achievements and weaknesses of the total literacy programme; and

(b) whether Government are considering a new approach to this programme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Literacy programme are reviewed periodically.

(b) After review, a new approach has been adopted since 1st April, 2000, with the following features to ensure effective implementation of literacy programmes:

- (i) National Literacy Mission (NLM) parameters have been revised and financial norms enhanced.